



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Heger et al.

Serial No.: 10/656,353

Examiner

: Not Yet Assigned

Filed

September 5, 2003

Group Art Unit

: Not Yet Assigned

For

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Customer No.: 21003

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

December 22, 2003

Date of Deposit

Paul D. Ackerman

39,891

Attorney Name

Patent Reg. No.

Signature

December 22, 2003

Date of Signature

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO 1449 and respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-captioned application. Copies of all of the documents listed on the Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute NY02:468031.1

"prior art." If the Examiner applies the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of the documents.

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Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits of referenced application. Therefore, applicants do not believe that any fee is due in connection with the submission of this paper. However, if any fee is due, or if any overpayment has been made, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fee or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 02-4377. Duplicate copies of this sheet are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

By: \langle

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Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce (REV. 2-82) Patent and Trademark Office										Atty. Docket No. A35976 – 066340.0176		Serial No. 10/656,353			
BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)										Applicants Heger et al.					
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^{*} Examiner: Initial citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. NY02:468038.1